



CALIFORNIA HIGH-SPEED RAIL AUTHORITY

BOARD MEETING MINUTES - Adopted

October 1, 2009

SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

The meeting of the California High-Speed Rail Authority was called to order on October 1, 2009 at 10:10 AM at the Sacramento City Council Chambers in Sacramento, CA.

Call to Order and Roll Call

Members Present: Curt Pringle, Chairman
Thomas Umberg, Vice-Chairman (remotely from Camp Eggers, Afghanistan)
Quentin Kopp
Fran Florez
Rod Diridon, Sr.
Lynn Schenk
Richard Katz
David Crane
Members Absent: Russell Burns

Chairman Pringle stated Vice-Chairman Umberg would be joining the meeting remotely from Camp Eggers, Afghanistan.

Pledge of Allegiance

Administered by Fran Florez

Public Comment

Chairman Pringle called for Public Comment

Approval of Board Policies and Procedures

Chairman Pringle continued this item to the November meeting.

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Grant Application

Chairman Pringle dropped this item from the agenda and announced there was no need to discuss the ARRA application at this time.

Approval of Memorandum of Understanding with Caltrain

Mr. Diridon moved for Board approval of the signing of the Caltrain MOU and Judge Kopp seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

Requests for Expressions of Interest for Procurement/Prequalifications

Mr. Katz suggested that staff reach out to as many people in the state that are qualified and would hope that as much of the work as possible be done by California companies. Ms. Schenk spoke of concern of waste and fraud and would hope that a structure is set in place to oversee the contracts for all the contractors and the sub-contractors.

Mr. Crane feels the staff should know who is available and qualified, and approach them rather than requesting them to supply their qualifications.

Ms. Florez expressed gratitude to the board for recognizing there are hundreds of small businesses in the state that will now have the opportunity to express their interest in contracting with the authority.

Mr. Diridon stated small contracts give access to a larger number of contractors. We don't want to clump it all together so one very large International contractor would come in and the money from this project would end up overseas. We need to keep the High Speed Rail money in California.

Chairman Pringle stated he would like to have more information to be sure they are asking all the right questions. He would like a list of questions for the board's review submitted at the November Board meeting.

Mr. Kopp suggested the Request for Expressions of Interest be postponed at this time.

Mr. Morshed said there is no downside for waiting at this time, but they need the requested information of the industry available to begin the process.

Mr. Morshed, introduced his new assistant; Sam Newman.

Mr. Morshed announced he will be out of the country until October 19, 2009, leaving Deputy Director, Carrie Pourvahidi in charge until his return.

Member's Reports

Chairman Pringle mentioned his recent trip to France and experiencing his first high speed rail trip.

Chairman Pringle announced the Governor's press event – re: CHSRA AARA application, official submittal to the Governor's Office.

Ms. Florez reported a press event scheduled to take place in Fresno with Congressman Costa, announcing the AARA application.

Mr. Diridon mentioned a press conference at Diridon Station at noon in San Jose and Mr. Katz announced he and Chairman Pringle met with the Editorial Board of the L.A. Times.

Executive Director's Report

Mr. Morshed presented the Board with a copy of the Budget request for next year's budget that was submitted to the Department of Finance and stated it would likely be January before staff would be called to meet with the Department of Finance to go over the figures. Chairman Pringle asked that a full explanation of budget figures be submitted to the Board during the November meeting.

KPMG presented their Organizational Assessment to the Board during a workshop. Chairman Pringle requested a list and explanation of what positions they feel should be filled immediately.

KPMG provided a cost benefit evaluation in the process which would enable the California High Speed Rail Authority to hire the staff necessary to meet the AARA funding deadlines.

Chairman Pringle announced he would encourage the Board Committees to begin meeting and focusing on their priorities. In discussion, Mr. Katz and Chairman Pringle agreed the committee meetings should be held the afternoon before the each monthly Board meeting to facilitate convenience for the Board Members who must travel.

At 12:41p.m. the Board adjourned for the closed session portion of the meeting.

The public meeting resumed with no reportable actions taken during closed session.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:07p.m.